

In the Claims:

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims.

Please cancel claims 2-118, 126 and 130 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1, 122-125, 127-129 and 131 and add new claims 132-134 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

allowing a chemical or biological species and oligonucleotide identifier, immobilized independently on a common surface, to participate in a chemical or biological interaction;
and

determining participation of the chemical or biological species in the chemical or biological interaction by identifying the oligonucleotide identifier ~~associated with~~ immobilized on the surface.

2-118. (Canceled)

119. (Previously presented) The method in claim 1, wherein the surface comprises gold.

120. (Previously presented) The method as in claim 119, wherein the surface is a surface of a gold colloid particle.

121. (Previously presented) The method as in claim 120, wherein the chemical or biological species is immobilized on the surface via a self-assembled monolayer.

122. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein the chemical or biological species is ~~fastened to~~ immobilized on the surface via a ~~metal-binding tag/metal/chelate linkage~~ metal binding tag – metal – chelate linkage.

123. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein, during the allowing step, the oligonucleotide identifier is ~~fastened to~~ immobilized on the surface, the determining step comprising separating the oligonucleotide identifier from the surface and then identifying the oligonucleotide identifier.

124. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 123, wherein, during the allowing step, the oligonucleotide identifier is ~~fastened to~~ immobilized on the surface via a self-assembled monolayer.

125. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 123, ~~comprising identifying wherein~~ the oligonucleotide identifier is identified via fluorescent sequencing.

126. (Canceled)

127. (Currently amended) The method as in claim ~~126~~ 132, wherein each of the first and second ~~articles~~ surface is a colloid particle.

128. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 1, ~~comprising identifying wherein~~ the oligonucleotide identifier ~~by identifying~~ is identified by a complementary oligonucleotide

having a first portion complementary to the oligonucleotide identifier and a second portion complementary to a second oligonucleotide identifier.

129. (Currently amended) The method as in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 132, comprising allowing a first chemical or biological species, immobilized ~~relative to~~ on a first surface of a first article, to chemically or biologically interact with a second chemical or biological species, immobilized ~~relative to~~ on a second surface of a second article; and

determining the chemical or biological interaction by identifying an interaction hybridization identifier that is complementary to a combination of a first oligonucleotide identifier ~~fastened to~~ immobilized on the first surface ~~of the first article~~ and a second oligonucleotide identifier ~~fastened to~~ immobilized on the second surface ~~of the second article~~.

130. (Canceled)

131. (Currently amended) The method as in claim 130 comprising, prior to the identifying step, ~~deactivating~~ separating any non-hybridized oligonucleotide.

132. (New) A method for determining interactions between chemical or biological species, comprising:

providing a first chemical or biological species, immobilized on a first surface, and a first oligonucleotide identifier independently immobilized on the first surface;

providing a second chemical or biological species, immobilized on a second surface;

allowing the first species to participate in a chemical or biological interaction with the second species;

determining participation of the first and second species in the interaction; and
determining the identity of the first oligonucleotide identifier, thereby identifying the
first species;
wherein the first surface is the surface of a nanoparticle.

133. (New) The method as in claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide identifier is identified via
PCR.

134. (New) The method as in claim 132, wherein the oligonucleotide identifier is identified
via PCR.